

REMARKS

Specification and Abstract Objections and Claim Rejections

The specification and abstract are objected due to grammatical errors. Claims 1 – 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by and claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chumbley et al. (U.S. 4,397,346).

Drawings

It is noted that no Patent Drawing Review (Form PTO-948) was received with the outstanding Office Action. Thus, Applicant assumes that the drawings are acceptable as filed.

Amendments to Specification

Applicant has amended the Specification as noted above to cure obvious grammatical and idiomatic inaccuracies. With respect to the terminology "T-shaped cords", Applicant respectfully submits that these cords are lift cords, which are known to those of skill in the art, see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 2,620,869; 4,799,526; and 5,423,367. Thus, Applicant has substituted "lift cords" for "T-shaped cords". No "new matter" has been added to the original disclosure by the foregoing amendments to the Specification

Abstract of the Disclosure

Applicant is submitting a substitute Abstract of the Disclosure for that originally filed with this application to more clearly describe the claimed invention. Entry of the substitute Abstract of the Disclosure is respectfully requested.

New Claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1-5 and added new claims 6-13 to this application. It is believed that the new claims specifically set forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

The primary reference to Chumbley et al. teaches an insulating window shade that includes magnetic tape 20 and 22 for airtight sealing of the edges of the shade when the shade is lowered and a chord 28 for raising and lowering the shade. See, e.g., column 1, line 67 – column 2, line 12; column 4, lines 41-63; and column 6, line 43 – column 7, line 19.

However, Chumbley et al. do not teach a cordless blind with no pull cords or lift cords. Rather, Chumbley et al. teach a blind with pull and lift chords (see, e.g., column 6, line 61 – column 7, line 2; and FIG. 5).

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Chumbley et al. do not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Chumbley et al. cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Additionally, Chumbley et al. do not disclose or suggest a modification of their specifically disclosed structures that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. The magnetic tape 20 and 22 of Chumbley et al. is provided to secure the window shade to the window sash to prevent heat loss. See, e.g., column 1, lines 20-29; column 1, line 67 – column 2, line 12; and column 2, lines 43-47. To raise and lower the shade, Chumbley et al. provide a chord 28. They fail to provide any suggestion of using the magnetic tape to secure a raised shade. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited prior art does not render obvious Applicant's claims.

Application No. 10/721,291

Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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